signed to raise incomes and productivity of the people below poverty line. While *It* allocating resources to the States under the poverty alleviation programmes, more emphasis is now given to the incidence of poverty as compared to the Sixth Plan. Rajasthan will also get substantial Central assistance under the Modified Gadgil formula. The outlay for Seventh Five Year Plan for Rajasthan has been fixed at Rs. 3000 crores which is 48 per cent higher than the outlay of Rs. 2025 crores for Sixth Five Year Plan. Greater emphasis is being laid on employment generation and poverty alleviation programmes and programmes for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. These measures will help in further promotion of economic growth in the State and improve the condition of the people below the poverty line in the State.

Cases Pending in Rajasthan High Court

2025 SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will fee Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to stale:

fa) the total number of cases pending before the Rajasthan High Court as on date:

(b) the number of vacancies to be fill—used up in the Rajasthan High Court as on date;

(c) the date on which each vacancy occurred;

(d) the steps taken or are proposed to be taken to dispose of the pending cases; and

(e) by when the vacant posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) As per the information furnished by the Registry of the Rajasthan High Court. 47063 cases were pending before the Court as on 1.1.1987.

(d) A Statement of steps taken for early disposal of pending cases is enclosed herewith. *(See* below)

(b), (c) and (e) The sanctioned strength of the Rajasthan High Court is 21 permanent Judges and 1 additional Judge. As on 20-11-1987, all the Judges were' in position, leaving no vacancy.

Decision has been taken to create 6 new posts of additional Judges in the Rajasthan High Court. Some proposals for appointment of additional Judges against these posts have been received It is, however, not possible to indicate the time when these appointments would be finalised.

Statement

Steps taken from time to time to reduce pendency

The following steps have been taken in recent years to reduce pendency in the High Courts:

1. Elimination of arrears in all the Courts has been discussed in the Conference of Chief Justices, Chief Ministers and Law Ministers of States held on 31st August—1st September, 1985 and the Resolutions of the Conference have been commenced to the High Courts and the State Governments.

2. The Code of Civil Procedure was amended in 1976 to abolish Letters Patent Appeals from judgement of Single Judge of the High Court in Second Appeal (vide Section 100A).

3. The Code of Criminal Procedure based on the recommendations of the Law Commission was enacted in 1973.

4. The Sanctioned strength of the . High Court Judges has been increased from 351 in March, 1977 to 440 as on 1st February, 1987.

5. Apart from the above. certain High Courts are taking the following steps for ensuring better disposal of cases:

(a) Cases involving common questions are being groupped by several Hieh Courts:

(b) Matters fixed for hearing by giving short returnable dates;

(c) Dispensing with printing of records;

(d) Expediting and giving priority to matters under certain Acts,

6, The recommendations contained in the 79th Report of the Law Com mission have been examined. As action on majority of the recommendations is to be taken by the State Governments and the High Courts, these have been sent to them alongwith tne views of the Union Government and they have been requested to take necessary action.

7. The Government have entrusted the Law Commission, the study of the judicial system to introduce necessary reforms. The terms of reference are:

(a) the need for decentralisation of the system jf administration of justice by:

(i) establishing, extending and strengthening in rural areas the institution of Nyaya Panchayats or other mechanisms for resolving disputes;

(ii) setting up a system of participatory justice with defined jurisdiction and powers in suitable areas and centres;

(iii) establishing other tiers or systems within the Judicial heir-arehy to reduce the volume of work in the Supreme Court and the High Courts.

(b) the matters for which Tribunals (excluding Sevices Tribunals) as envisaged in Part XIV-A of the Constitution need to be established expeditiously and various aspects related to their establishment and working.

(c) the procedural laws with a view generally to disposing of cases expeditiously, eliminating unnecessary litigation, delays in hearing of cases and reforms in procedures and procedural laws and particularly to devising procedures appropriate to the forums envisaged in items (a) (i) and (a) (ii).

(d) the method of appointments to subordinate courts, subordinate judiciary.

(e) the training of Judicial Officers.

(f) the role of the legal profession in strengthening the system of ad ministration of justice.

(g) the desirability of formulation of the norms which the Government and the Public Sector Undertakings should follow in the settlement of disputes including a review of the present system for conduct of litiga tion on behalf of the Government and such Undertakings.

(h) the cost of litigation with a view to lessening the burden on the litigants.

(i) formation of an All India Judicial Service; and

(j) such other matters as the Commission considers proper or necessary for 'he purposes aforesaid or as may be referred to it from time to time by the Government.

Delays in the Vaccine Action Programme

2026. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vaccine Action Programme has been delayed due to controversy started due to back of facts: and

(b) whether Government propose to set up an organisation for technology assessment, on the lines of the one in USA, on a regular basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER *OF* STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC